

**2013 APPROVED  
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
for the  
COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

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**Work Plan**

The Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 30, 2013. During the 2013 interim, and as time permits, the committee proposes to address the following general topics, including but not limited to the bulleted items, and, if necessary, recommend appropriate legislation:

(1) corrections issues:

- use of solitary confinement in New Mexico prisons and jails;
- federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 compliance;
- tax status of private prison companies;
- cost-benefit analysis approaches, such as the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative; New Mexico Results First Model; the cost of the criminal justice system; alternative response to abuse and neglect cases; and Legislative Finance Committee program evaluations;
- examination of issues surrounding illegal drugs and the criminal justice system;
- incarcerated women, including health services for imprisoned women, especially for pregnancy, and services for women and trauma;

- prison overcrowding and more effective use of prisons, including the use of county prisons by the state; and
  - updates from the New Mexico Sentencing Commission and consideration of augmentation of the commission's budget;
- (2) county jail issues:
- New Mexico Association of Counties, including a presentation on what reforms county jails are implementing and an update on mental health issues and law enforcement/detention centers;
  - authority of county jail administrators to conduct classifications of inmates; and
  - overview of county misdemeanor compliance programs;
- (3) juvenile issues:
- examination of issues surrounding juvenile justice, including whether there is a need for changes to the Children's Code;
- (4) civil rights issues:
- background checks for firearm purchases;
  - police shootings and possible legislative responses; and
  - prisoner rights in the state's penal system;
- (5) restorative justice, restitution and bullying:
- examination of possible legislative responses to bullying;
  - restorative justice — increase in funding; and
  - payments of restitution after a crime;
- (6) courts and litigation issues:
- statutory fixes to requirements for liens;
  - discussion of the appeals process in civil cases and examination of whether there is a need for reforms or streamlining;
  - school boards and resolution of small-dollar litigation;
  - update from the judiciary and the Administrative Office of the Courts; and
  - issues surrounding the reliability and use of eyewitness identification;
- (7) probation and parole issues:
- discussion of whether there is a need for restructuring or changing the probation and parole system in New Mexico; and
  - discussion of indeterminate periods of parole for people convicted of sex offenses;
- (8) tribal issues:
- discussion of tribal jurisdiction and awarding of full faith and credit to judicial

- decisions; and
- cross-deputizing agreements between tribal and pueblo police forces and local law enforcement; and

(9) other courts, corrections and justice issues:

- voter registration and the Electronic Registration Information Center, a multistate registration database;
- termination of parental rights for a child conceived through rape (revisiting HB 38 and HB 508, 2013 session);
- discussion with the Office of the Attorney General concerning double jeopardy problems posed by the Forfeiture Act and similar laws;
- transition of the Public Defender Department to an independent agency;
- prostitution and human trafficking;
- alternative methods of handling security bonds;
- theft of merchandise shells and pallets;
- establishing a school of public health at the University of New Mexico, as related to public health issues in the committee's scope of work — specifically child abuse and neglect, addiction problems, etc.;
- review the scope of practice in regulated professions; and
- review of Texas water lawsuit against New Mexico filed in the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee  
2013 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 13	Santa Fe
July 22-23	Albuquerque
August 22-23	State Capitol, Santa Fe
September 16-17	Las Cruces
October 21-22	Grants and the Pueblo of Acoma
November 21-22	State Capitol, Santa Fe